

**James Monroe to Andrew Jackson, October 19, 1814,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

SECRETARY MONROE TO JACKSON.

War Department, October 19, 1814.

Sir, The great calls on the General Government for the supply of the militia of the several states with arms; has very much reduced the numbers in the several Depots; as this demand will probably continue and be encreased; and as the waste and destruction of arms in the hands of the militia is a growing and most serious evil; it becomes an important duty of the Commanding officers of the different Military Districts, to pay the most prompt and strict attention to remedy the evil, and to take immediate and effectual measures for the safe keeping and repair of all such arms.

To attain this object you will issue a general order, directing that all arms which have been issued by the United States to the Militia within your Military District, should on their quitting the service, be deliver'd to some officer of the ordnance department, or such other as you may appoint, who will take care to have the arms safely kept and who's duty it shall be made, to collect all arms that may be found within your District; that are out of repair, and to employ proper persons either of the army or others to put them in complete order. . . .